



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], MI [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: January 30, 2020  
MOAHR Docket No.: 19-013043  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Respondent: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie**

### **HEARING DECISION**

Upon the request for a hearing by the Department of Health and Human Services (Department), this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9, and in accordance with Titles 7, 42 and 45 of the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), particularly 7 CFR 273.16, 42 CFR 431.230(b), and 45 CFR 235.110, and with Mich Admin Code, R 400.3130 and 400.3178. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on January 23, 2020, from Lansing, Michigan. The Department was represented by Darcus Braswell, Recoupment Specialist from the Department of Health and Human Services. The Respondent was represented by herself.

### **ISSUE**

Did Respondent receive an over-issuance (OI) of the Food Assistance Program (FAP) due to Respondent's error?

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. Respondent was a recipient of FAP benefits from the Department.
2. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period February 1, 2019, through May 31, 2019, due to Respondent's error.
3. The Department alleges that Respondent received \$2,817.00 FAP OI that is still due and owing to the Department.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

In the case, the Respondent failed to report to the Department her daughter's earned employment income that began on November 17, 2018, and February 23, 2019, in a timely manner. As a result, Respondent received a FAP OI during the period February 1, 2019, through May 31, 2019, due to Respondent's error. Respondent received \$2,817.00 FAP OI that is still due and owing to the Department. Department Exhibit 1, pgs. 5-73. BAM 220 and 715. BEM 501 and 505.

During the hearing, Respondent stated that her daughter is still in high school. The Department was not aware that she was still in high school and her income may not be counted if she qualifies. Respondent agreed to provide proof of school enrollment and attendance for the contested time period. The Department should send out a Verification Checklist, DHS-3503, to verify school attendance.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finds that the Department **did** not establish a FAP benefit OI to Respondent totaling \$2,817.00.

Accordingly, the Department is **REVERSED**.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Initiate a redetermination of the Respondent's FAP OI for the contested time period, and
2. Based on policy, the Department should provide Respondent with written notification of the Department's revised eligibility determination, and

3. Issue Respondent any retroactive benefits she may be eligible to receive, if any.

CF/hb



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**Carmen G. Fahie**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Robert Gordon, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MOAHR within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MOAHR will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MOAHR. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 763-0155; Attention: MOAHR Rehearing/Reconsideration Request.

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules  
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request  
P.O. Box 30639  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

**DHHS Department Rep.**

MDHHS-Recoupment  
235 S Grand Ave  
Suite 1011  
Lansing, MI 48909

**DHHS**

Susan Noel  
26355 Michigan Ave  
Inkster, MI 48141

Wayne County (District 19), DHHS

BSC4 via electronic mail

M. Holden via electronic mail

D. Sweeney via electronic mail

MDHHS-OIG via electronic mail

**Petitioner**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], MI [REDACTED]